



## Arlington Committee on Tourism and Economic Development Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, December 28, 2022

Time: 7:00 pm

Conducted by Remote Participation

### **Committee Members in Attendance:**

Angela Olszewski, John Hurd, Bob Bowes, Bob Radochia, Billy Lyons

1. Call to Order

Angela called the meeting to order at 7:02

2. Remote Participation: Discussion and Vote

The committee considered the topic of whether to pilot hybrid meetings. Bob B. made a motion, seconded by John to decline participation. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.

3. Acceptance of Minutes

Bob R. made a motion, seconded by John to table acceptance of the minutes. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.

4. Treasurer's Report/Reimbursements

There was no Treasurer's report as Tom was not present.

5. First Lights Recap

The event was well attended. Those that attended noted that it was a very nice event. Bob B. noted that they are trying to get more funds to light up center via restarting Beautification Committee. Bob B. will get the memo from Beth Locke for the January meeting.

6. Visitor Center

*Proposal for map of Cultural District on back wall: discussion and vote*

The committee discussed the possibility of hanging a map on the back wall of the VC. Angela will contact Jim Feeney to see if a portion of the low fence along the bikepath can be removed. ATED will discuss the matter further once Angela has spoken with Jim and gotten permission. No vote taken.

*Visitor Center Operations*

Angela proposed creating a group of ATED members and volunteers to begin planning for the upcoming season at the VC. Bob R. and Angela are interested in working on this.

7. Foot of the Rocks: Request for support of CPA application: discussion and vote

The committee reviewed the proposed design. It noted improvements to the site and its important history. The proximity of the proposed hotel could attract more visitors.

Development of the site could help increase foot traffic in the Heights business district.

Bob B. made a motion, seconded by John, that ATED support the CPA application of the Foot of the Rocks Working Group. The motion passed by roll call vote: (4-0-1)

Bob. B: yes

Bob R.: yes  
John: yes  
Billy: yes  
Angela: abstain

Angela will write the letter on ATED's behalf.

8. Arts & Culture/Business Updates

There was a successful holiday stroll in the Heights, which combined arts & culture festivities with commerce. The Old Schwamb Mill hosted a holiday craft fair. The Chamber hosted First Lights. Bob B. noted that the center business group is reorganizing. The town has a new economic development coordinator. A few new restaurants will be opening in empty storefronts in the center.

9. Battle Road Scenic Byway Update

No update. Angela will check in with George Parsons.

10. Planning for 2023: Project/Focus Discussion

Angela suggested that ATED focus on the center for the coming year as it was the business district that was hit hardest by the pandemic. The committee was interested in this idea. We will reach out to the Chamber and center business group.

11. Patriots Day Weekend Planning

Bob B. and John Hurd will check on the status of the parade. Angela will check on whether the reenactment can be held due to the sewer work that damaged the lawn at the Jason Russell House. Angela will confirm that the Lancers will ride on Patriots Day.

12. 2025 Celebration

John noted that some committee appointments have been made. He is working on organizing a meeting.

13. Committee Openings

Angela will work on updating the posting to fill the vacancies.

14. Future Meeting Dates

ATED will meet on its next scheduled date, Wednesday, January 25<sup>th</sup>.

15. Old Business/New Business

There was no old or new business.

16. Adjournment

Bob B. made a motion, seconded by Billy, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 pm.